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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

SUBJECT Fortifications Along the Yugoslav-Hungarian Border

PLACE 25X1C

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

1. At a meeting of the Yugoslav Commission of National Defense, held in Belgrade 23 May 1949, it was agreed that, in case of attack by the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, and in particular Marshal Tito, could count on a certain amount of friendship from the Rumanian, Bulgarian, Greek and Albanian Communists. Hungary they felt, however, would continue to hold towards Yugoslavia the traditional animosity that has characterized Hungarian-Yugoslav relations for many generations. Further, they made the significant observation that Hungary is the only country in which the Soviet Union has succeeded in maintaining control over the entire Military Command. As a result of this meeting, and of recent "incidents" along the Yugoslav-Hungarian border, the National Defense Commission issued instructions that the construction of all fortifications along the northern frontier be accelerated.
2. Two thousand additional laborers, including many political prisoners, are to be added to the construction crews already at work on the fortifications. Extra machinery, steel and cement has been allotted for the project. A large part of the cement originally contracted for by South American countries has been withheld from shipment because of the priority given these fortifications.
3. The plan for fortifications along this frontier calls for construction according to sectors. Each sector is to make use of the most favorable defensive terrain within its own area, but it must also conform to the general defensive plan of adjacent sectors, to form a solid defensive line. Where feasible, the fortifications are built into solid rock with reinforced concrete entrances in the rear. Small roads, have been built to each fortification, leading from the main metalled roads that connect the fortified points with the supply dumps that have been placed several kilometers to the rear.
4. The most difficult area encountered has been in the Backa plain region. There the fortifications have had to be constructed entirely of reinforced concrete inasmuch as no natural defensive positions exist. Metalled roads had to be constructed to each of the positions since the area is often flooded by the tributaries of the Drava and Tisza rivers. Each of these fortifications is equipped with one or two guns and positions for heavy machine guns. Furthermore, the entire area in front of the positions has been mined. All the bridges in the area have been mined and plans have been made for blowing them all by remote control if necessary.

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